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In Memoriam

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IN MEMORIAM

MRS. SALLIE STARR MCGEE LENTZ

The death of Mrs. Sallie Starr McGee Lentz on June 1, 1962, has been aptly termed "a tragic loss for Marshall, East Texas and the State." It was, therefore, fitting that the East Texas Historical Association adjourn their first meeting on September 29, 1962, in her memory.

Mrs. Lentz, of 305 South Grove, Marshall, was born in 1896, the daughter of Harry W. McGee and Mrs. Sallie Starr McGee. Both maternal and paternal sides of the family were residents of East Texas during the Texas Republic. Her great-grandfather, James Harper Starr, settled in Nacogdoches in 1837 and served as head of the state board of land commissioners, Secretary of the Treasury of the Texas Republic, and as Confederate agent for the Trans-Mississippi Postal Department.

With such an illustrious parentage it was natural for Mrs. Lentz to have an intensive interest in Texas History with particular emphasis upon East Texas. She was an avid collector of a multiplicity of items having potential value to historians, such as pamphlets, books, newspaper clippings, stamps, Texas money and Indian artifacts. She was unusually active in local club and historical activities, serving as chairman of the Harrison County Historical Survey Committee at the time of her death, as well as Vice-President of the Harrison County Historical Society. She and her husband were "among those most regular in attendance" at the Annual Meetings of the Texas State Historical Association "for something like a quarter of a century." She was also a member of the West Texas Historical Association, the James Bonham Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and Colonial Dames of America, Chapter VIII, Houston.

In addition to these activities Mrs. Lentz frequently presented papers of historical interest to local, regional, and state organizations, and contributed articles to the Southwestern Historical Quarterly and The Handbook of Texas. Dr. H. Bailey Carroll, editor of the Southwestern Historical Quarterly, paid Mrs. Lentz a much deserved compliment recently when he stated that "the service of such devoted students and researchers in history is not subject to immediate and direct replacement."